

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Independent claims 1, 13 and 21 have been amended to clarify that the packet conversion recited in the claims involves first, associating media packets with routing information to allow switching of the media packets to appropriate output ports of a routing apparatus, and, second, replacing the routing information with Internet protocol addresses. Support for these amendments may be found in the Specification as originally filed, for example at paragraph 49. These claims, and their respective dependent claims, are patentable over all of the cited references.

For example, Eyer et al., US 6401242 describes a system in which interactive program guide (IPG) data is transmitted over an MPEG-2 compliant network via a multicast scheme. However, nowhere does Eyer teach or suggest that this transmission involves a process in which the IPG data is somehow associated with routing information to allow switching of the IPG data to appropriate output ports of a routing apparatus, and then the routing information is replaced with Internet protocol addresses as presently claimed. Indeed it appears the multicast addresses described by Eyer are not even IP addresses at all inasmuch as there is no mention of an IP distribution network over which the IPG data is transmitted. Hence, the claims are patentable over Eyer.

Goodman et al., US 5666487, describes the transmission of media stream packets over ATM networks that make use of VPI/VCI addresses. In configuring the media stream information for such transmission, however, Goodman makes no mention and does not suggest that the media packets are associated with routing information to allow switching of the packets to appropriate output ports of a routing apparatus, and then replacing the routing with Internet protocol addresses as presently claimed. Hence, the claims are patentable over Goodman.

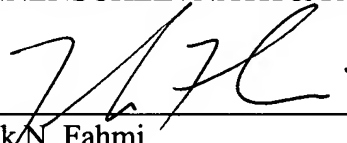
Schutte, US 6178455, is concerned with the transporting of IP packets within a CATV network. Hence, the IP packets become associated with triplet addressing information that

allows these packets to be routed over the CATV network. This is a fundamentally different process than that presently claimed in which media packets are associated with routing information to allow switching of the media packets to appropriate output ports of a routing apparatus, and the routing information is then replaced with Internet protocol addresses. Thus, the present claims are patentable over Schutte.

If there are any additional fees due in connection with this communication, please charge Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
SONNENSCHNEIN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP

Dated: 1/4, 2005



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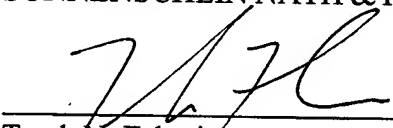
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